

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 5, 20, 24, 38, and 39 as follows:

- 1 1. (Currently amended) A method for providing control of a set-top box with infrared
2 (IR) signals, comprising the steps of:
3 providing an IR control database residing on a local mass storage system in a set-top
4 unit, wherein said IR control database contains ~~at least one~~ a plurality of IR control
5 entries[[y]];
6 providing an IR control packet, wherein said IR control packet is generated from a
7 first IR control entry of said IR control database; and
8 controlling said set-top box with said IR control packet.
- 1 2. (Original) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
2 generating said IR control packet containing an IR control waveform from an IR
3 waveform specification of said first IR control entry; and
4 transmitting said IR control packet, based upon said IR control waveform, to said
5 set-top box;
6 wherein said first IR control entry of said IR control database contains said IR
7 waveform specification.
- 1 3. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said transmitting step further comprises
2 providing multiplexed serial transmission of said IR control packet based upon said IR
3 control waveform to said set-top box.

1 4. (Original) The method of Claim 2, wherein said transmitting step further comprises
2 providing queued multiplexed serial transmission of said IR control packet based upon said
3 IR control waveform to said set-top box.

1 5. (Currently amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
2 receiving an IR control entry to create a received IR control entry; and
3 inserting said received IR control entry into said IR control database to create said
4 first IR control entry of said IR control database.

1 6. (Original) The method of Claim 5, further comprising the steps of:
2 providing a raw IR control library residing on said mass storage system, wherein
3 said raw IR control library contains a first raw IR control entry;
4 parsing said first raw IR control entry of said raw IR control library to create a
5 processed first IR control entry; and
6 communicating said processed first IR control entry to create said first IR control
7 entry of said IR control database.

1 7. (Original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the step of:
2 providing a raw IR control packet, wherein said IR control packet is generated from
3 said first raw IR control entry of said raw IR control library;
4 wherein said controlling step controls said set-top box by transmission of said raw IR
5 control packet.

1 8. (Original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 providing a prototype IR control database residing on said mass storage system,
3 wherein said prototype IR control database contains a first prototype IR control entry;

4 performing a control code search to access said prototype IR control database to
5 select a first prototype IR control entry; and
6 generating from said first IR control entry said first raw IR control entry of said raw
7 IR control library.

1 9. (Original) The method of Claim 8, further comprising the step of:
2 providing a timing interface wherein said first IR control packet is generated from
3 said first prototype IR control entry of said prototype IR control database.

1 10. (Original) The method of Claim 6, further comprising the steps of:
2 providing a corrections-additions database residing on said mass storage system,
3 wherein said corrections-additions database contains a first correction data entry; and
4 parsing said first correction data entry and said first raw IR control entry to create
5 said processed first IR control entry.

1 11. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said system contains a first computer
2 and a second computer;
3 wherein said mass storage system contains a first mass storage system coupled to
4 said first computer and a second mass storage system coupled to said second computer;
5 wherein said IR control database includes a first instance of said IR control database
6 residing on said first mass storage system coupled to said first computer;
7 wherein said receiving step creates said received first IR control entry at said first
8 computer;
9 wherein said insertion step inserts said received first IR control entry at said first
10 computer to create said first IR control entry of said first instance of said IR control database
11 residing on said first mass storage system;

12 wherein said raw IR control library resides on said second mass storage system
13 containing said first raw IR control entry;

14 wherein said library parsing step creates said processed first IR control entry by said
15 second computer; and

16 wherein said communication step communicates said processed first IR control entry
17 by said second computer to create said first IR control entry of said IR control database.

1 12. (Original) The method of Claim 11, wherein said system further includes a server
2 computer system;

3 wherein said receiving step creates a received first IR control entry by said server
4 computer system; and

5 said communication step includes the steps of:

6 providing communication of said processed first IR control entry by
7 said second computer to create said first IR control entry by said server computer system;
8 and

9 providing communication of said processed first IR control entry by
10 said server computer system to create said first IR control entry of said first instance of said
11 IR control database by said first computer.

1 13. (Original) The method of Claim 6, wherein said first IR control entry of said IR
2 control database includes a first IR control syntax specification.

1 14. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification includes a number of digits in a channel specification.

1 15. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification entry includes a delimiter specification ending an IR transmission.

1 16. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification entry includes a delay specification between digits of an IR transmission.

1 17. (Original) The method of Claim 13, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification entry includes a prefix specification.

1 18. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein said prefix specification includes an
2 A/B switch prefix selection.

1 19. (Original) The method of Claim 17, wherein said prefix specification includes an
2 A/B/C switch prefix selection.

1 20. (Currently amended) An apparatus for providing control of a set-top box with an IR
2 signal, comprising:

3 a local mass storage system in a set-top unit;

4 an IR control database residing on said mass storage system wherein said IR control
5 database contains ~~at least one~~ a plurality of IR control entries~~[[y]]~~;

6 an IR control packet, wherein said IR control packet is generated from a first IR
7 control entry of said IR control database; and

8 a transmitter that controls said set-top box by transmitting said IR control packet
9 thereto.

1 21. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 20, said IR control packet further comprising:

2 an IR control waveform based upon an IR waveform specification of said first IR
3 control entry;

4 wherein said IR control packet is transmitted to said set-top box based upon said IR
5 control waveform.

1 22. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said transmitter provides multiplexed
2 serial transmission of said IR control packet to said sat-top box based upon said IR control
3 waveform.

1 23. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 21, wherein said transmitter provides queued
2 multiplexed serial transmission of said IR control packet to said set-top box based upon said
3 IR control waveform.

1 24. (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 20, further comprising:
2 means for ~~comprising~~ creating a received IR control entry based upon reception of
3 an IR control entry; and
4 means for ~~comprising~~ creating said first IR control entry of said IR control database
5 based upon insertion of said received IR control entry into said IR control database to create.

1 25. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 24, further comprising:
2 a raw IR control library residing on said mass storage system, wherein said raw IR
3 control library contains a first raw IR control entry;
4 means for parsing said first raw IR control entry of said raw IR control library to
5 create a processed first IR control entry; and
6 means for communicating said processed first IR control entry to create said first IR
7 control entry of said IR control database.

1 26. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, further comprising:

2 a raw IR control packet, wherein said IR control packet is generated from said first
3 raw IR control entry of said raw IR control library; and
4 wherein said control provides control to said set-top box by transmission of said raw
5 IR control packet.

1 27. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, further comprising:

2 a prototype IR control database residing on said mass storage system containing a
3 first prototype IR control entry;

4 means for performing a control code search access on said prototype IR control
5 database to select a first prototype IR control entry; and

6 means for generating from said first IR control entry said first raw IR control entry
7 of said raw IR control library.

1 28. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 27, further comprising:

2 a timing interface, wherein said first IR control packet is generated from said first
3 prototype IR control entry of said prototype IR control database.

1 29. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, further comprising:

2 a corrections-additions database residing on said mass storage system, said
3 corrections-additions database containing a first correction data entry; and

4 means for parsing said first correction data entry and of said first raw IR control
5 entry to create said processed first IR control entry.

1 30. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein said system further comprises a first
2 computer and a second computer;

3 wherein said mass storage system further comprises a first mass storage system
4 coupled to said first computer and a second mass storage system coupled to said second
5 computer;

6 wherein said IR control database comprises a first instance of said IR control
7 database residing on said first mass storage system coupled to said first computer;

8 wherein said receiving creates said received first IR control entry at said first
9 computer;

10 wherein said insertion inserts said received first IR control entry at said first
11 computer to create said first IR control entry of said first instance of said IR control database
12 residing on said first mass storage system;

13 wherein said raw IR control library resides on said second mass storage system
14 containing said first raw IR control entry;

15 wherein said library parsing creates said processed first IR control entry by said
16 second computer; and

17 wherein said communication communicates said processed first IR control entry by
18 said second computer to create said first IR control entry of said IR control database.

1 31. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 30,

2 wherein said system further comprises a server computer system;

3 wherein said receiving creates a received first IR control entry by said server
4 computer system; and

5 wherein said communication comprises:

6 communication of said processed first IR control entry by said second
7 computer to create said first IR control entry by said server computer system; and

8 communication of said processed first IR control entry by said server

9 computer system to create said first IR control entry of said first instance of said IR control
10 database by said first computer.

1 32. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 25, wherein said first IR control entry of said IR
2 control database comprises a first IR control syntax specification.

1 33. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 32, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification comprises a number of digits in a channel specification.

1 34. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 32, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification entry comprises a delimiter specification ending an IR transmitter.

1 35. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 32, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification entry comprises a delay specification between digits of an IR transmitter.

1 36. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 32, wherein said first IR control syntax
2 specification entry comprises a prefix specification.

1 37. (Original) The apparatus of Claim 36, wherein said prefix specification includes an
2 A/B switch prefix selection.

1 [[39]] 38. (Currently amended) The apparatus of Claim 36, wherein said prefix
2 specification includes an A/B/C switch prefix selection.

1 39. (Currently amended) A program storage medium readable by a computer, tangibly
2 embodying a program of instructions executable by the computer to perform a method for
3 controlling a set-top box with an IR signal, said method comprising the steps of:

4 providing an IR control database for residence on a local mass storage system in a
5 set-top unit;

6 ~~providing reception of~~ receiving an IR control entry to create a received IR control
7 entry;

8 ~~providing insertion of~~ inserting said received IR control entry into said IR control
9 database to create ~~said a~~ first IR control entry of said IR control database;

10 providing an IR control packet, wherein said IR control packet is generated from a
11 first IR control entry of said IR control database;

12 providing control to said set-top box by serial transmission of said IR control packet;

13 providing a raw IR control library residing on said mass storage system, wherein
14 said raw IR control library contains a first raw IR control entry;

15 parsing said first raw IR control entry of said raw IR control library to create a
16 processed first IR control entry;

17 communicating said processed first IR control entry to create said first IR control
18 entry of said IR control database;

19 providing a corrections-additions database residing on said mass storage system,
20 wherein said corrections-additions database contains a first correction data entry; and

21 parsing said first correction data entry and said first raw IR control entry to create
22 said processed first IR control entry, wherein said IR control database contains at least one
23 IR control entry.